

significantly. There is also some concern about the accuracy of ethnicity reporting on the death records. Since ethnicity is largely a subjective measure, classification of decedents based on other persons' assessments or observations is prone to error.

This study suggests that the mortality experience of Hispanic children is similar to that of the total population in many respects. However, as is sometimes the case with recently immigrated populations, their health status may deteriorate over time. Therefore, continued assessment of Hispanic childhood mortality is clearly warranted. At the same time, efforts aimed at reducing unintentional injuries and other preventable causes of death need to be targeted toward this rapidly growing and vulnerable population.

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